REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-4 have been amended and claims 5-16 have been added. No claim has been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-16 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 2, 3 and 6 are independent claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification.

In view of the above amendments and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 5,666,172 issued to Ida, *et al.* (hereafter "Ida"). Applicants respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 1 recites:

> "1. A liquid crystal display module comprising:
> a lamp having an upper portion, a side portion and a lower portion;
> a lamp cover covering the upper portion and the side portion of the lamp and *exposing the lower portion*;
> a light guide plate having an upper surface, a lower surface and a side surface adjoining the lamp; and
> a rear reflector plate arranged below the lower surface of the light guide plate and *extended to cover the lower portion of the lamp*."

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserted that FIG. 5 of Ida discloses a lamp cover 850 that corresponds to the claimed lamp cover. This assertion is respectfully disagreed with. FIG. 5

of Ida shows how to replace the linear light source 811 in the liquid crystal device 11. Particularly, Ida describes, in column 6, lines 38-67:

> "Replacement of the linear light source (811) in the liquid crystal display device (11) of this preferred embodiment will now be described.
>
> ...
>
> Also, because the end of the reflecting film (821) not fixed between the light-transmitting plate (801) and the resin frame (600) is movable, when the lamp cover (850) is pivoted *the linear light source (811), which had previously been covered by the lamp cover (850)* and the reflecting film (821), is exposed on the rear side of the resin frame (600) and can be removed from the rear side of the liquid crystal display device (11).
>
> In his way, it is possible to easily remove the linear light source part (810) ..."

It should be clear from Ida that the lower portion of the linear light source 811 is normally covered by the lamp cover 850, as shown in FIG. 3. Also, it should be clear to the Examiner that the lower portion of the linear light source 811 is exposed *only when* the linear light source 811 is removed for replacement. Also, FIG. 3 clearly shows the lamp cover 850 covering the side portion and the lower portion of the linear light source 811 but *does not cover the upper portion* of the linear light source 811. Thus, it is submitted that Ida fails to disclose or suggest "a lamp cover covering the upper portion and the side portion of the lamp and *exposing the lower portion*", as claimed.

Also, claim 1 recites "a rear reflector plate arranged below the lower surface of the light guide plate and *extended to cover the lower portion of the lamp*". In this regard, the Examiner failed to point out which element shown in FIG. 3 corresponds to the claimed rear reflector plate. Instead, the Examiner assumed that there is a rear reflector plate based on the path of the light rays in FIG. 3. However, Ida does not disclose or suggest that the plate which is not disclosed but

assumed to be existing below the light transmitting plate 801 is extending to cover the lower portion of the linear light source 811. Thus, it is submitted that Ida fails to disclose or suggest ""a rear reflector plate arranged below the lower surface of the light guide plate and *extended to cover the lower portion of the lamp*". For the reasons above, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable from Ida.

Amended independent claim 2 recites "a lamp cover comprises: an upper panel covering the upper portion of the lamp; a side panel covering the side portion of the lamp; and *a lower panel spaced apart from the lower portion of the lamp to expose the lower portion of the lamp*; ... a rear reflector plate arranged below the lower surface of the light guide plate and *extended to cover the lower portion of the lamp*".

As previously mentioned, Ida fails to disclose or suggest "a lower panel ... to expose the lower potion of the lamp" and "a rear reflector plate ... extended to cover the lower portion of the lamp". Thus, it is submitted that claim 2 is patentable over Ida.

Amended independent claim 3 recites "a rear reflector plate ... having a portion extended to cover the lower portion of the lamp", which is not disclosed or suggested, as previously mentioned. Claim 3 further recites "a back cover attached to the mold frame to support the extended portion of the rear reflector plate". In this regard, the Examiner asserted that the lamp cover 850 corresponds to the claimed back cover (Office Action, Page 4). This assertion is respectfully disagreed with.

Previously, the Examiner asserted that the lamp cover 850 corresponds to the claimed lamp cover. Particularly, the Examiner asserted that the lamp cover 850 exposes the lower portion of the linear light source 811. Applicants believes that it is technically inconsistent and logically flawed to assert that the same lamp cover 850 exposes the lower potion of the linear

light source 811 and at the same time supports the extend portion of the rear reflector plate. Thus, it is submitted that claim 3 is patentable over Ida. Claim 4 that is dependent from claim 3 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection of claims 1-4.

Added Claims

In this response, claims 5-16 have been newly added. Claim 5 is dependent from claim 3 and claim 4 has been amended to be dependent from newly added claim 5. Claims 6 and 16 are added to claim the invention from different perspectives.

Other Matters

In this response, claims 1-4 have been amended for the purposes of better wording, informality correction and clarification only. In clarifying the claims, the limitations that are believed to be unnecessary have been deleted. No amendment has been made to avoid the cited reference because the cited reference does not anticipate the claimed invention, as previously mentioned.

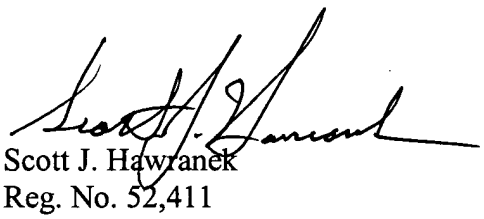
CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submit that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTACHMENT: REPLACEMENT FIGURE SHEET CONTAINING FIG. 4 and FIG. 5

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